



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 74

LCO No. 925

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Referred to Committee on Public Safety and Security

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF AMUSEMENT RIDES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 29-133 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 When used in sections 29-134 to 29-142, inclusive:

4 (1) "Amusement" means any circus or carnival presented in the
5 open, including a place where one or more [mechanical] rides or
6 devices capable of accommodating [five or more persons] one or more
7 passengers and normally requiring the supervision or services of an
8 operator are presented for amusement or entertainment purposes, and
9 any circus, carnival or other portable show or exhibition presented
10 under any single tent, air-supported plastic or fabric or other portable
11 shelter, and involving the assembly of one hundred or more persons;

12 (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Safety;

13 (3) "Insurance commissioner" means the state Insurance
14 Commissioner;

15 (4) "Grandstand" means any structure, either with or without a roof,

16 providing seating for one hundred or more persons;

17 (5) "Owner" means the proprietor, operator, agent or possessor of
18 such amusement;

19 (6) "Tent" means any structure with or without side panels having
20 wood or metal supports and using any kind of a textile or similar
21 material for coverage, and having a capacity sufficient to shelter one
22 hundred or more persons or covering a ground area of more than one
23 thousand two hundred square feet.

24 Sec. 2. Section 29-136 of the general statutes is repealed and the
25 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

26 (a) [On] Upon receipt of an application for an amusement license,
27 the Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee
28 shall [cause a full investigation and inspection of] investigate and
29 inspect in full the location, equipment, paraphernalia, mechanical
30 amusement rides and devices in respect to such amusement and all
31 other matters relating thereto [to be made] and shall determine
32 whether or not such amusement will be reasonably safe for public
33 attendance and may make reasonable orders concerning alterations,
34 additions or betterments to the equipment, paraphernalia, mechanical
35 amusement rides and devices, and concerning the character and
36 arrangement of the seating, means of egress, lighting, fire-fighting
37 appliances, fire and police protection and such other provisions as
38 shall make the amusement reasonably safe against both fire and
39 casualty hazards.

40 (b) When any serious physical injury, as defined in subdivision (4)
41 of section 53a-3, or death occurs in connection with the operation of
42 any amusement ride or device, the owner of such ride or device shall,
43 within four hours after such occurrence, report the injury or death to
44 the commissioner or [his] the commissioner's designee. [Within] Not
45 later than four hours after receipt of any such report, the commissioner
46 or [his] the commissioner's designee shall cause an investigation of the

47 occurrence and an inspection of the ride or device to determine the
 48 cause of such serious physical injury or death. The commissioner or
 49 [his] the commissioner's designee may enter into any place or upon
 50 any premises so licensed in furtherance of such investigation and
 51 inspection. Unless otherwise authorized by the commissioner, no
 52 amusement ride or device subject to the provisions of this chapter may
 53 be operated or altered nor shall it be removed from the location where
 54 such injury or death occurred for seventy-two hours after the time of
 55 the receipt of the report.

56 (c) The Commissioner of Public Safety may grant variations from, or
 57 approve equivalent or alternate compliance with, particular provisions
 58 of this section or any regulation adopted under the provisions of
 59 subsection (d) of this section where strict compliance with such
 60 provisions would entail practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship, or
 61 is otherwise adjudged unwarranted, provided any such variation or
 62 approved equivalent or alternate compliance shall, in the opinion of
 63 the Commissioner of Public Safety, secure the public safety.

64 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance
 65 with the provisions of chapter 54 to carry out the provisions of this
 66 section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	29-133
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	29-136

Statement of Purpose:

To give the Commissioner of Public Safety greater discretion regarding the enforcement of regulations and statutory requirements concerning amusement rides.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]